

Sidis makes an interesting gradation of affections of the psyche into three great classes, the which pass into one another by imperceptible degrees, these he styles: functional psychosis, functional neuropathy and necrotic neuropathy. Disaggregation and disintegration, however, may be present in different degrees in varying groups, and neurone systems. His complete formula being expressed as follows: "The symptomatic side of disease, the total psychomotor aspect of the pathological process, is a function of location, number, and degree of dissociation or degeneration. The total complex of psychomotor manifestations depends on the location and number of neurone aggregates involved and on the stage or degree of the pathological process of disaggregation, dissociation or degeneration."

With reference to the attitude towards the insanities, he says: "Functional psychosis, functional insanities, should become a special research field of the psychopathologist. Functional psychosis is specially characterized by psycho-physiological disaggregation where synthesis is still possible. The only way of restoring the disturbed equilibrium is to bring about a synthesis of the disaggregated groups with the functioning systems of the upper active personality." To bring about these syntheses the author makes use of his intermediary states.

Throughout the book the recognition of the so-called subconscious life is imperative. Upon its existence the arguments are founded and the work in reality is an excellent study of the subconscious physio-psychological processes, well worth the reading.

JELLIFFE.

ZUM STUDIUM DER MERKFÄHIGKEIT. Experimental-psychologische Untersuchung. Von DR. AUG. DIEHL, Nervenarzt in Lübeck. S. Karger, Berlin.

The study of the power of correct observation and firm memory grasp is of interest and of importance not only to the psychologist, but to the jurist, and the physician—not to mention the everyday business man.

From the psychiatric side there has been a distinct lack of criteria for the measurement of normal ability in this series of faculties. This lack the present study in part fulfills, and does so very well.

It is a psychological study primarily with a very practical trend, and is well worth permanent preservation in its present small monographic form.

SMITH.

GENERAL PARESIS. PRACTICAL AND CLINICAL. BY ROBERT HOWLAND CHASE, A.M., M.D., Physician-in-Chief Friends Asylum for the Insane, etc. P. Blakiston's Sons & Co., Philadelphia.

The author's object in devoting an entire volume to this disease is distinctly sensible. The general practitioner does not recognize general paresis as soon as it can be recognized, and in consequence many calamities occur that might be averted. There can now be no excuse for the general practitioner with such an excellent manual as this for his guidance, since it has been from this practical point of view that the work has been written. The book is particularly rich in illustrative cases. These cover an immense field of experience, and put the reader *en rapport* with very dissimilar types of the affection.

It cannot fail to be of great service, even more than a much more technical presentation of the subject.

S. E. J.

LES PARALYSIES DES NERFS PÉRIPHÉRIQUES, ET LA SYSTEMATISATION DE CES NERFS. Par DR. CHARLES VIANNAY, Ex-interne des Hopitaux de Lyon, Préparateur du Cours de Médecine Opératoire. J. B. Baillière et Fils. Paris, France. 1903.